



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Good Morning Representative Roy, Senator Meyer and members of the Environment committee.

For the record, I am State Representative Christopher Caruso and I am here to testify on Proposed H.B. No. 5485 AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS IN BRIDGEPORT.

Due to overdevelopment in the city of Bridgeport and years of unregulated construction and encroachment on wetlands, there are four flood projects in Bridgeport - the Ox Brook Flood Project, the Rooster River Flood Project, the Northeast Flood Project and the Island Brook flood project.

These projects are in various stages. The Rooster River Flood Project received initial funding, but is unable to go further without additional money. The Island Brook flood project received funding to reinforce an existing dam; however, money is needed to expand the spillway to protect residents downstream from the dam. The Ox Brook has received some funding to purchase a water retention pond and necessary studies, but needs additional funding to redirect the flood waters to the water retention pond and other necessary changes. The Northeast flood control project work needs to begin on necessary studies and environmental impact reviews.

The residents who live in areas prone to flooding have been fortunate because there has not been a 100 year storm since these neighborhoods have been developed. Despite that severe flooding has been occurring, it is nothing compared to the anticipated loss of life and property destruction of a 100 year storm.

I ask you to vote this out of committee and refer this to Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee. Thank you for your time this morning and for your support of this important matter.

SERVING BRIDGEPORT